



# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                   |   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| In re patent application of:      | ) | Before the Examiner: |
| Jeffrey W. Liebert                | ) | John A. Rivell       |
|                                   | ) |                      |
| Application Serial No. 10/074,341 | ) | Group Art Unit 3753  |
|                                   | ) |                      |
| Filed February 12, 2002           | ) | Our Ref.: 4090-138   |
|                                   | ) |                      |
| BREAKAWAY SAFETY                  | ) | May 18, 2004         |
| SHUT-OFF VALVE                    | ) |                      |

## RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated May 12, 2004, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. Any necessary fees may be charged to, or overpayment credited to, Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

May 18, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Brad A. Schepers  
Name of Registered Representative

Brad A. Schepers  
Signature

May 18, 2004

Date of Signature

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 2-14 and 16-30 were pending for the final Office Action in the subject application. Claims 8, 9, 16-18 and 25-30 have been allowed. Claims 7 and 11 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2-6, 10, 12-15 and 19-24 have been rejected on various grounds. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.

AF/3753  
1fw



Doc. No. 282511 WEMHH/SB/21 (10/03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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|  |                      |                                 |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number   | 10/074,341                      |
|  | Filing Date          | February 12, 2002               |
|  | First Named Inventor | Jeffrey W. Liebert              |
|  | Art Unit             | 3753                            |
|  | Examiner Name        | John A. Rivell                  |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission   | 13                   | Attorney Docket Number 4090-138 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) <input type="text"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>Return Receipt Postcard |
| Remarks <input type="text"/>  |   |  |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |   |
|--|---|
| Firm or individual name                    | Brad A. Schepers, Reg. No. 45,431<br>Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP |
| Signature                                  |   |
| Date                                       | May 18, 2004  |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING  |                  |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below |                  |
| Typed or printed name  | Brad A. Schepers |
| Signature  |                  |
| Date   | May 18, 2004     |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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